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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY Rumania

SUBJECT Troops in the Constanta Region
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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. Part of the Rumanian troops stationed at Constanta moved out toward the Dobruja, early in Jan 1954. The rest were not able to make any move during the month of Feb 1954, because of bad weather in the Black Sea regions.
2. Part of the troops of the Ministry of Interior, guarding the Danube-Black Sea Canal, also moved out towards Tulcea, Babadag, and Mangalia, at the beginning of Jan 1954.
3. On 1 Mar '54, preparations for movement among troops at Constanta were reported. Observers were not able to state definitely whether this meant Rumanian or Soviet troops. Observers were not able to approach close enough to find out for themselves. Uniforms of Soviet and Rumanian soldiers now being identical, the troops are very hard to distinguish at a distance. It is believed, however, that Rumanian troops at Constanta have by this time been cut down to two regiments.
4. Soviet troops on station here are estimated at five regiments, in addition to motorized regiments or parts of motorized or armored regiments, artillery detachments, and a Soviet naval regiment for control of the Black Sea coasts. The total amounts to between 23,000 and 23,500 men under arms and belonging to Soviet units not in transit.
5. These Soviet troops occupy the barracks of former Rumanian regiments and other buildings, together with some newly constructed barracks. Some of the troops were forced out of their barracks by bad weather. They were billeted in houses in Constanta, in old schools, etc.
6. There have been no (repeat: no) movements of troops in transit during the entire month of Feb 1954.

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